[*Translation*]

Special courts for Cases of Killings of Scheduled Castes in Bihar

2765. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Union government have directed the Government of Bihar to set-up Special Courts under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 and to appoint Special Public Prosccutors in respect of cases of killings of Scheduled Casts in the villages Main and Barasingha math of Gaya District, Bihar; and

(b) if so, the reponse of the State government?

MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI STIARAM KESRI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Report from the State Government of Bihar is awaited.

[*English*]

Linking the Prices of agricultural products with Price Index of Agricultural Inputs

2766. SHRI J. CHOKKA RAO: SHRI RAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to link the prices of agricultural products with the price index of agricultural inputs to offset the effects of reduction of subsidies on fertilizers etc;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN); (a) to (c). While formulating its recommendations on price policy for agricultural commodities the Commission of important factors such as cost of production, changes in input prices, input/output price parity, trend in market prices, etc. The cost of cultivation/production taken into account includes each and kind expenses on use of material inputs like seeds, fertilizers, manners, etc.

2. The Government suitably fixed the minimum support prices for Kharif crops of 1991-92 duly compensating the farmers for the 30 percent rise in fertilizer prices.

Import of Cotton and Wheat

2767. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: SHRI RAM NAIK:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that agriculturists are opposed to the import of Cotton and Wheat at a time when the market arivals are about to come in;

(b) whether the import is likely to bring down the prices of these commodities in the market, thereby adversely affecting the farmers; and

(c) if so, the corrective steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The impact of contemplated import of these commodities on market prices is not likely to affect the farmers adversely as these commodities are procured from the